REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA.

Much Significance.

The Nicaraguan Canal Enterprise-Characteristics of the Country -Its Importance in

The assembling of Congress and the prospect of important legislation and executive action with reference to the Nicaraguan canal has served to attract to Washington an unusual number of distinguished citizens from Cen ral America. The most important of our visitors is President Iglesias, of Costa Rica. The details of the mission upon which this gentleman came have not yet been developed, but it is understood that the business in hand referred largely to the Isthmian canal and the relations of the United States to the enterprise. While the canal is expected to pass through what has always been considered Nicaraguan territory the Costa Rican Government claims that their boundary line passes down the center of the San Juan River, which is to be used for canal purposes. What other matters Don Iglesias has on his mind will probably be developed in the course of the Winter. Don Iglesias left the city last week.

Costa Rica is the most southerly of the Central American States, and in many respects the most advanced. It is a sort of irregular parallelogram lying between Nicaragua on the one side and the United States of Colembia, in South America, on the other side, and thus may be termed the Isthmus republic. Its people are in dependent and progressive, as Spanish-Americans go, and so far have refused to unite in the attempt to effect a lederation of Central American states, which has been under discussion and trial at various times for several years. The recent dissolution of the United States of Central America through a revolution in San Salvader seems to justify the relusal of Costa Rica to join in the movement, as being at this time premature and of doubtful practicability. The country having a long coast upon both the Atlantic and Pacific, enjoys a peculiarly advantageous position so far as ocean commerce is concerned, possessing one or two good harbors on the Atlantic side and quite a

number upon the Pacific coast. The population of the country is mostly white, consisting of about 250,000 people descendants of immigrants from Gallicia in Spain. There are only about 4,000 of the native Indians left, but the blacks descended from various tribes imported to the West Indies originally from Africa are quite numerous.

EDUCATION AND RAILROADS.

morals and civilization. The mass of the woods, \$485,885; coin and other metal, people are industrieus, honest, sober, \$29,459.50, and various other commodities. Court and in subordinate tribunals as clean, economical, obedient to the authorities and respectful to the laws.

Latin-American nations in regard to pub- wire, woolens, wines, drugs, and shoes, choose a limited number of electors. lic instruction. In 1893 there were 327 This trade was divided as follows. United These meet in a body called the Electoral primary schools with 21,913 enrolled pu- States, \$1,401,074,25 gold; England, \$1,264,- Assemb y and proceed to choose the Presi- on bread an watch. Buck an gag him ef pils, or 53 per cent. of all the children 856.33; Germany, 8803,816.66; France, 8378, dent of the Republic and the Congressof school age. There are 784 teachers, of 205.35; Cuba, \$162,825.35, and other coun-men whom 337 are men and 447 women. Their tries in diminishing quantities. average monthly salary is 45 pesos. There are more teachers than soldiers.

de Costa Rica and in the Colegio Superior de Senoritas; also in the Provincial Institute of Cartago, Alajuela and Here.

and 13,392.80 pesos from passengers.

the Costa Rica Railway, 56 miles from

Port Limon, to the mouth of the Rio Frio,

near its entrance into the Lake of Nicaragua. Such a railway would contribute

enormously to the development of North-

ern Costa Rica. The region traversed by

An important project contemplated by

President Igiesias is a ship canal along the coast line from Matina to the Color-

ado River, and on to the mouth of the

San Juan, a total distance of over 65

miles. This ship canal would open an

extensive banana region, as well as ex-

cellent lands for the cultivation of cacao

and rubber trees and many other tropical

SOME NATURAL PRODUCTS.

is mainly coffee. The crop of 1897 yielded

it went to England. Another important product is the banana, of which 1,692,102

bunches were exported in 1896. The production of sugar is about 20,000,000 pounds

Rice of a very superior quality is grown,

two crops being obtained a year with very

little care and no irrigation. Beans and

corn are successfully grown everywhere

The important agricultural districts are,

besides the Central Highlands, which are about 90 miles in length by 36 miles in width, the great valleys of Salamanca,

Santa Clara, Tortuguero, San Carlos, and

Dulce and Guanacosta are fertile regions

Costa Rica is concentrated.

Rio Frio. Along the Pacific the great valley of Tarraba and the plains of Folio

227,582 Bags of 132 pounds each. Most of

The agricultural product of the country

the line is highly fertile.

annually.

in the country.

THE EXECUTIVE MANSION IN SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA'S CAPITAL.

distance of 115 miles, and has important per year, instead of 10,000 sterling. The

branches. The Pacific Road runs from Government is authorized to buy its

Puntarenas 14 miles eastward to Esparta. own bonds for their immediate liquidation.

It is owned by the Government, and in | The amount of the currency in circula-

1896 earned 18,486.60 pesos from freights tion in 1896, valued in pesos, was 3,820,

count, is under construction to connect paper money, 1,500,000 coined silver money,

San Jose with the Pacific coast, and a 300,000 coined gold money total \$5,721,837,

Another railroad, on Government actional paper money, 08,669 war-emission

splerdidly adapted to cattle. It has very of its notes from circulation, and, later, nutritious forage plants, like arrocillo, as soon as sufficient old can be put in Visit of Its President Has cola de venado, zacate de guinea, zacate circulation, the exchange of bills is to be de castilla, zacate para, zacate ancate, made by this bank in gold instead of silver. grama, guate, cana de azucar, gamalote, sabanilla, teosinte, lengua de vaca, gucimo, jengibrillo, plantanillo, etc. In 1892 the number of the cattle in the country numbered 345,665; horses, 77,043; half retires being classified, so that onesheep, 2,765; swine, 62,328. The total value of the natural, agricul-

the Central American Group-People and tural and livestock products of the country is placed at 19,000,000 pesos.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

and fruitful San Juan Valley, must be colones in Costa Rica, and the Govern-turned over to the negro race as the only ment ordered, furthe more, a second emisone capable of enduring so inhospitable sion of 400,000 colo es in pieces of 20 a climate. These regions are the richest colones each. It is further willing to coin of all, and could sustain a large popula- half a million more in the near future. The Cesta Rica Bank on the other hand, Costa Rica has vast pasture lands is obliged to retire a corresponding amount

METHODS OF GOVERNMENT. Costa Rica is a republic, the Governhalf retires every two years.

Legislative powers are vested in a single house, whose members are chosen, one for every 8,000 inhabitants, for a term of four years, by an electoral coilege. This body assembles every year on May 1 for Costa Rica's commercial movement in a 60-days' session, which may be ex-1896 comprised \$5,597,727 gold, of exporta- tended for 30 days more. During the tions, and \$4,748,818 gold, of importations. intervals between sessions of Congress



DON RAFAEL IGLESIAS.

The wide-awake young President of the Republic of Costa Rica.

The people of Costa fiica must be considered as standing high above those of the neighboring countries in regard to bunches, valued at \$670,672.50; various gress. sisted largely of breastuffs and dairy pro- changed every feur years. Suffrage is re-The customs duties are collected on the inces and two comarcas or territories.

Higher education is given in the Liceo, from 20 to 25 per cent. ad valorem. They cantones are subdivided into districts. dough not de banquet vou deserve." are prid one-half down and one-half in The territories are represented in Congress three months' time.

dia. For the higher studies the Govern rived from custom house duties, revenue popularly elected and a political chief lite, an we're rayly hongry. You horrid ment pays the expenses of 10 Cost stamps and stamped paper, liquor mo- named by the President. In each of the Yankees has robbed us so dat dere's no Ricans in foreign Universities and High nopoly, tobacco, coffee tax, sale of public provinces or territories there is a Governor longer ennything fit tub eat tub be got in

Schools. | land, tax for registering property, etc., and a military commandant, also named | de country." | Port Limon, on the Atlantic, and Pun- and amounted in 1826 to 7,425,610 pesos. | by the President, and a Judge of First | I santered ober tube de Majah's tent. arenas, on the Pacific side, are the prin- The foreign debt of 2,000,600 sterling Instance, appointed by the Supreme takin keer not tuh gir dar befo de Majah

years of age are obliged to do military service according to law. The army is from de front tent, "I want you tuh be divided into two parts; the first includes, kecrful an fry dem aigs very nicely, foh under the head of active service, all sol- we hab some charmin young leddies foh diers from 18 to 40 years of age; the second suppeh. Do yourself an me credit.' comprises all the rest, under the head of Jes den Meshack let one ob de aigs 'reserve.' There is a third division, slip an fall. known as the National Guard, including all citizens capable of shouldering arms wid dat aig?' sez Meshack, as de smel cutside of the foregoing.

The Celebrated Cornish American Pianes and Organs.

We are quite sure that our readers will have noticed that for many ye as the advertisements dropped de whole haversack. Land ob of the above firm have appeared regularly in this journal. We are co-fident, therefore, that it will be not at all out of place on our part if we direct your special attention to the advert sement that appears in our present issue, from which we observe that this enterprising firm are note generous than ever in giving the general public the privilege of purchasing what are really first-class Planos and Organs at pirces that-eem almost ridiculous taking the quality of the goods into consideration. Messrs Cornish & Company have been in business for nearly fifty years, and in spite of this record and in spite of the hundreds of thousands of Cornish American cianos and Organs that have been sold during this period there are still people who think that these instruments are not first-class and high grade because they are sold at least afty per cent, cheaver than agents, dealers and musics ores self organs and planes. The fact is often lost sight of that they are the only firm of actual manufacturers of high grade Pianos and Organs who sell exclusive y to the general public at first cost. The only profit added to the cost of production is the small one that they make themselves; there are no branch estab ishcipal ports. In 1896, 258 steamers and 41 contracted in England in 1871-72 against ments to keep up, everything is sold on the now sailing vessels entered Port Limon, and the will of the nation has been diswell-known Cornish plan-direct from factory to 152 vessels entered Puntarenas. There astrous to it. Lately an arrangement are two railroads, the Atlantic and the was made under which the redemption

The cornish American Pianos and Organs are Pacific Railroads. The Atlantic line runs of this debt will begin in 1817 instead manufactured in one of the finest and best equipped factories in this country. from Port Limon westerly to Alajuela, a of this year, and with 10,000 sterling Messrs. Cornish & Company have certainly laced within the reach of everyone, no matter how humble heir circumstances may be, a firstass musical instrument. There is a guarantee but these instruments are of the first quality. Messrs. Cornish & Company will furnish you their handsome catalogue upon request, and those of our readers who do not want to purchase at present would do well to secure this ndsome souvenir, which we understand has been prepared at a very great expense, and million pesos are annually set aside for or 20.8 pesos per capita of the population ufactored by this thoroughly reliable concern. which describes all the Pianos and Organs manof Costa Rica. The Government has and gives valuable information to all lovers of agreed with the Bank of Costa Rica to music. A postal card to Cornish & Company, A line of railway is projected to run agreed with the Bank of Costa Rica to



A CHARACTERISTIC PASTIME IN COSTA RICA.

where nearly the entire populations of with the actual silver peso. It was also

404 of Costa Rica bank notes, 2,764 Na-

which, if properly tilied, would offer advantages equal to the Central Highlands, law of 1896 parity was also established The Roman Catholic Church in the Islands. Archbishop Chapelle, of New Orleans, Costa Rica is concentrated.

Considering the future of Costa Rica coin, should correspond in intrinsic value years in Washington, has returned from a the question of farm labor is of vital importance. The few Indians are rapidly decreasing. It looks as though the fertile lowlands on the Atlantic and Pacific should coin gold periodically. There are lowlands on the Atlantic and Pacific should coin gold periodically. There are for the Antilles to begin the work.

Visit to the Pope, with reference to reorganizing the Roman Catholic Church in Cuba and Porto Rico according to the American way, and will immediately leave for the Antilles to begin the work.

Pension Atty's, Warder Build'g, Washington, D. C. sides, as well as those in the extensive 600,000 colones de oro in pieces of 10 for the Antilles to begin the work.



De Pussonal Rekollekshuns" of an Army Cook-The War Viewed from the Rear. Ef I did hab a peck ob trubbel while I wuz in de ahmy, I aiso had a bushei ob fun. But I used tuh tink dat de flip Majah had mo'n a bushel ob trubbei tuh

a scant peck ob fun. De Majah wuz mad a long time at Mistuh Jo foh killin dem sheep down at Cuipepah Coahthouse, belongin tuh de ole rebei who wuz out gunnin for his groceries among ouah commissary-trains, while his darters wuz at home flirtin wid an bambooz in de Majah.

De Majah kep pickin an naggin at Mistuh Jo ebery chanst he got, until at last Mistuh Jo got mad an begin layin foh him, an wen Mistuh Jo laid foh a man dat man had betteh git an axident insur-Bimeby we all went back tuh Cuipepah

Coahthouse agin, ez de Ahmy ob de Potomick wuz in de habit ob doin ebery change ob de moon, an de flip Majah he begin skytaxin round dem same rebet gals

One day me an Mistuh Jo wuz piroutin round de country lookin foh sumfin tuh sorter pad out ouah hardtack an pork, an we dun cum acrost a settin-hen's nest from which de hen seem tuh hab eloped gone off wid a handsemer rooster, an lef de aigs tuh de cold mercies ob an unfeelin world. I found dem fust by steppin on one, when de whole air wuz perambulated wid a smell dat most loosened my

"Hold on, Snowball. Be keerful. Gedder all dem up an put dem in my haversack," sez Mistuh Jo. "Dey's jist de ting I've done bin lookin foh.

What enny man wood want wid aigs so game dat dey'd spile soap-grease I coodent foh de life ob me make out. But I knowed dat Ide betteh do ez Mistuh Jo ordehed, so I geddered up de aigs an handed de haversack tuh Mistuh Jo. He put de strap ober his shoulder an santered back tuh camp, goin right by whar de Majah wuz promenadin wid de

secesh gals. De moment de Majah sees him he wants tuh show off his authority befo de she seceshers. "Heah, you rascal," sezzee; "cum heah, dis minnit."

Mistuh Jo he waiked up ez humble an perlite ez cood be an saiooted.
"Whar you bin?" axed de Majah, very haughty an cross.

"Out in de country, lookin foh sumfin tuh eat," sez Mistuh Jo. "So I sposed, you ruffian. Bin robbin de honest people ob deir property. What you got in dat haversack? "Only a dozen or so ob fresh aigs," sez Mistuh Jo, very meekly.

"Well, you pillagin' thievin villain," sez de Majah, makin a great show ob madness befoh de gais," He learn you a lesson bout going round de country robbin hens' nests. He gib youra dose dat you won't Judicial power is lodged in a Supreme forgit foh awhile, I tell you. Gib me dat haversack. Heah, Snowball, you black The imports during the same year con- constituted by law. The judiciary is imp, take dat up tuh my tent an tell Meshack tuh fry dem wid dat ham I got Costa Rica holds the first place of all duce, machinery, cotton goods, furniture, stricted to popular conventions, which from de sutler foh suppeh foh myself an dese ladies. Sargint ob de Gyard, take dis robber tuh de gyard-house an put him he makes de least move or sez a word. Leddies, I hab deshonor tuh invite you The Republic is divided into five provtuh suppeh in my tent. Wid de addition of dese fresh country aigs I kin offer you a gross weight and generally amount to Both are divided into cantones, and the meal dat will be wurf settin down tuh.

"O, Majah," dey giggied, "we're eber so in the same way as the provinces. Each much obleeged tult you foh yore invite, an The revenue of the Government is de- cantone has a municipal organization we'll accept wid thanks. You air so per-

> an de gals. I handed de haversack tuh All Costa Ricans between 18 and 50 Meshack, an gib him de Majah's ordehs. "Yes, Meshack," called out de Majah

"Foh de Lawd's lub, what's de matter

riz de fly ob de tent.
"Majah," I heared one ob de gals say, "Ime afeared you habbent pitched your tent jest right. De air ain't at all good

I gib Meshack's arm a joggle, an he



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WIDOWS

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Mention The National Tribune.

Auer's Hair Vicor

"I have sold Ayer's Hair Vigor for the past thirteen years and have known of no case where it has failed to give satisfaction. I sell more of it than of any like preparation."

J. P. BRISCOE, Harrison, Ark.

"For five years I have been selling Ayer's Hair Vigor under a positive guaranty that it would produce hair on a bald head and restore gray hair to its natural color. I have not had one bottle returned. nor has there been a single case where the dressing was used that it did not do all that was claimed for it."

H. M. ACUFF, Elba, Va.

Removes Dandpuff

"For some years my hair had been coming out. It had become very dry, and my scalp was covered with dandruff. I have applied Ayer's Hair Vigor regularly for some weeks now, and I could hardly trust my senses when I first found that a new growth of hair had started. It is much thicker than formerly and of good color. The dandruff has disappeared, and my scalp seems to be in a perfectly healthy condition." Miss R. WRIGHT, Perth, Ont.

"Some time ago my head became full of dandruff, which caused me great annoyance; after a time the hair began to fall out. The use of Ayer's Hair Vigor stopped the hair from falling and made the scalp clean and healthy."

MRS. C. M. AYRES, Mount Airy, Ga.



Restores to Gray

"I think there is no toilet article in the world so good as Ayer's Hair Vigor. I am fifty three years old, and my hair would have been all white now if it were not for the use of the Vigor; but the application of that diessing has preserved its color and kept it soft and glossy." MRS. W. H. JARVIS, Otsego, Mich.

"After five years' use of Ayer's Hair Vigor, I can cheerfully recommend it as a desirable toilet article. It keeps the bair soft and glossy and helps it to retain its natural color." D. WARNER, Dunnyille, Ont.

Makes Hair Grow

"For about five years my hair kept falling out, until I was almost bald. Some New Hampshire friends asked me to try Ayer's Hair Vigor, and insisted on getting it for me. I used it during that summer and fall, and found that a new growth of hair had started. I continued to use it steadily for about four months, and at the end of that time had as good a head of baic as one HOWARD MELVIN, Carlisle, Mass.

"I am well pleased with Ayer's Hair Vigor. When I noticed that my hair was getting thin I commenced to use the Vigor, with the result that the hair not only ceased to come out, but a new growth of hair started. It certainly is an excellent tonic." CHAS. C. GRAVES, Brookton, N. Y.

Your druggist sells Ayer's Hair Vigor: \$1.00 a bottle; six bottles for \$5.00.

and that means stay at home.

You nasty, mean Yankee, dis is some to these exorbitant prices. trick ob yours tub insult us. We did not A very large percentage of the old sol cum heah tuh be insuited by a low-down diers are poor. We are not loaded down Hessian birelin, who is no gentleman. with money, and must make purchases Wait till father gits hold ob you.' De Majah had tuh burn his tent an all de cook things tuh git rid ok de pertumnacity ob de odoriferousness.

Smokeless Powder. Washington Star.

"Smokeless powder is to a great extenmatter of the future," explained an ord nance expert to a Star reporter. "There is no doubt that it will come some time, but so far there has been no complete success in that line. Nearly all countries are a work on it, and the best chemists are giv ing it attention. The result so far is three or four combinations of nitric acid and glycerine or nitro-glycerine, but they are not entirely smokeless. Of course, they ioned black or charcoal powder, which got its explosive power from nitrate of potash, as far as strength is concerned, but so is the brown powder, which is nearly smokeless. There has been a powder on the market for over five years which is known as nitro powder. It is known also as smokeless powder, and, as far as sporting uses are concerned, has almost entirely supplanted black powder. It is a much stronger powder, one half of the quantity doing the work of black powder when made up into cartridges. It costs slightly more, but there is no reason why it should except that it is a novelty. It has re-ceived the indersement of all of the best sportsmen, and for all practical purposes is smokeless as much as any powder, but, the several days when our army was acturlly engaged in warfare in Cuba there were frequent references in the news Works of Reference, and papers to the statement that the Spaniards were better prepared than our army in STANDARD, CHOICE that they had an actual smokeless pow der. This was an error in fact, and no official report has ever been made bearing it out. The Spaniards had only what we have—brown powder—and there is still some smoke discernible when it is exploded. There have been hundreds of formulas prepared and tested, and while nearly all of them are an improvement on the charcoal powder of former times, it is a misnomer as yet to call them smokeless Books powder. But smokeless powder will be a fact in less than two years, but we will not have any advantage over other nations in its use, for they will be as well off in this particular as we will be. There is a difference in the formulas, but the base is the same, nitro-glycerine."

Treat the Veterans Fairly.

Editor National Tribune: I attended the National Encampment at Cincinnati, and as usual, was disgusted with the genera reception the old soldier and his friends received from the people who furnished rooms and lodgings. They know that rooms, beds, and lodgings will be in demand, and they take a decided advantage of the circumstances, and charge exorbitant rates for poor accommodations.

Is this friendship, or is it robbery?
Streamers, signs, and cards staring us in the face wherever we go—large, attractive letters calling your attention to the words, "Welcome, GAR." Is it the GAR. man who is welcome, or the dollars and cents that he carries in his pocket? Thay tell us in glowing terms how much they owe us for the perpetuity of this grand and noble Government, but when we balance accounts the margin is on their side, and we owe them large prices per night for Of course, there are many exceptions.

initial or brown stone cameo ring, or \$3.00 for gent's. Best ever made for the money. Send correct size and letter wanted. Goods by mail. Address plainly.
BARKER, HOWARD CO., 26 Aborn St.,
Providence, R. I. Established 1836, Mention The National Tribune.

How Doctors, Dentists, Pharmacists, Undergrade at a tes skilliful, can soon graduate. Box 196, Chicago

Goshen, de perfumery dat riz pulled de The Grand Army of the Republic has a at Philadelphia, when it is formed, and tent-stakes up by de roots an tipped great many very warm friends, who would they adopt a course that is very plain in ober de cook-stove. Meshack he done divide their last penny with any old sol- my mind, this evil will be remedied. fainted, and I heard de gals say as dey dier in need, or gladly ease their burden; Lower prices for lodgings will cut quite a but we must insist on there being a limit figure towards taking the GAR man there.-Volney B. St. John.

Merely a Guess. Philadelphia Bulletin.

at reasonable rates or quit the business, "What do you suppose causes night-If the Department Commanders present a petition to the Commander-in-Chief, and "I think it must be the unstabled thoughts ne presents it to the Citizens' Committee that go teeming through the brain."

1898

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